

U.S. Department  
of Transportation

United States  
Coast Guard



Commandant  
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20593-0001  
(202) 267-1890

COMDTINST 16004.3

AUG 17 1993

## COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 16004.3

Subj: COAST GUARD PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
PROGRAM

1. PURPOSE. This instruction provides guidance for Coast Guard participation in the National Marine Sanctuary Program. The intended users of this instruction are managers of programs at the Headquarters, area, and district level which are involved in coastal zone management and enforcement.
2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders maintenance and logistics commands, commanding officers of headquarters units, and Chiefs of Offices and special staff divisions at Headquarters shall ensure compliance with the provisions of this instruction.
3. BACKGROUND.
  - a. In 1972, in response to a growing awareness of the intrinsic environmental and cultural value of our coastal waters, Congress passed the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431, et seq.). The Act authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate discrete areas of the marine environment as national marine sanctuaries to promote comprehensive management of their unique ecological, historical, recreational, and aesthetic resources.

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- b. The National Marine Sanctuary Program is administered by the Secretary of Commerce through the Sanctuaries and Reserves Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The program provides a coordinated and comprehensive approach to identify, designate, and manage areas of the marine environment of special national significance.
  - c. The goals of the program are:
    - (1) To enhance resource protection through the implementation of a comprehensive, long-term management plan tailored to specific resources;
    - (2) To promote and coordinate research to expand the scientific knowledge of significant marine resources and improve interagency decision making;
    - (3) To enhance public awareness, understanding, and wise use of the marine environment through public interpretive and recreational programs; and
    - (4) To provide, to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, the optimum public and private use of special marine areas.
  - d. NOAA is responsible for carrying out these goals through cooperative partnerships between Federal, state, and local agencies; educational and research institutions; and nongovernmental organizations. The Coast Guard contributes to this effort through its waterways management responsibilities, marine environmental protection activities, and the enforcement of sanctuary regulations as a part of its law enforcement activities.
  - e. Thirteen national marine sanctuaries have been designated since the program began. The locations of these sanctuaries are illustrated in enclosure (1). Enclosure (2) provides information on each sanctuary.
4. POLICY. Effective coordination of waterways management issues, marine environmental protection issues, and the enforcement of sanctuary regulations are important components of the National Marine Sanctuary Program. To this end, the Coast Guard will work closely with NOAA to ensure the comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of these special areas of the marine environment.
5. RESPONSIBILITIES.
- a. The Coast Guard will actively participate at all levels with NOAA and other Federal, state, and local agencies in evaluating proposals for new sanctuaries, developing

management plans and regulations for designated sanctuaries, and coordinating Coast Guard operations within sanctuary boundaries. The Coast Guard's early involvement in the development stage of management plans is particularly important to effectively integrating Coast Guard programs within the sanctuaries.

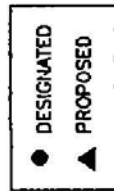
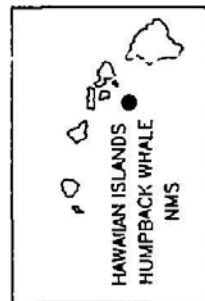
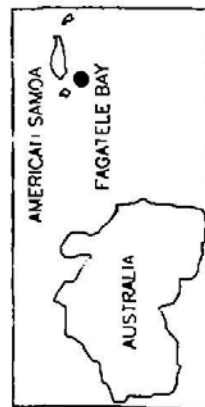
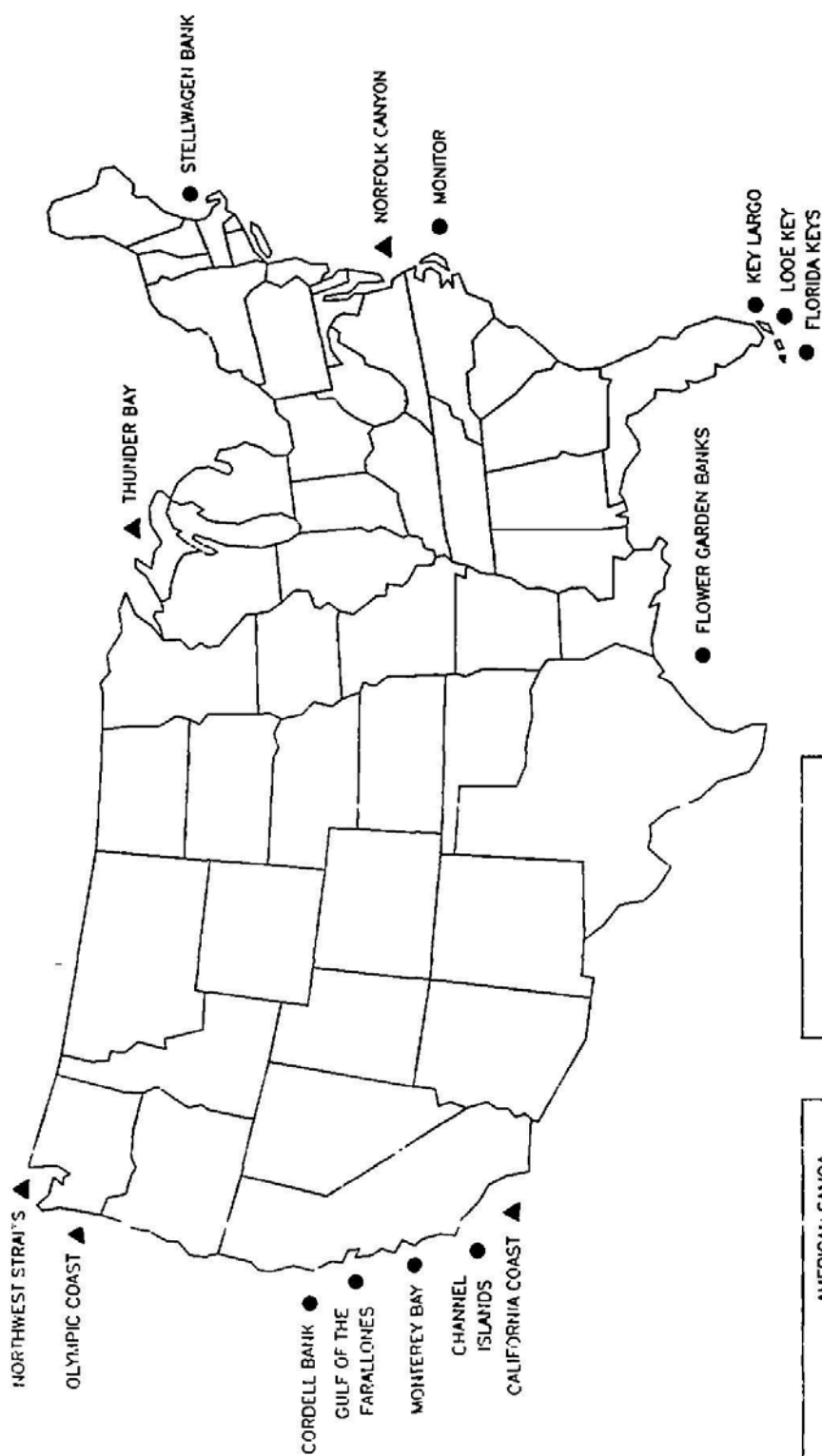
- b. Commandant will participate at the national level. Chief, Operational Law Enforcement Division (G-OLE), is the central Headquarters point of contact for the National Marine Sanctuary Program. The marine sanctuary program coordinators within the cognizant Headquarters offices are:
  - (1) Chief, Marine Environmental Protection Division (G-MEP), for marine environmental protection and contingency planning issues;
  - (2) Chief, Short Range Aids to Navigation Division (G-NSR), for navigation and waterways management issues; and
  - (3) Chief, Operational Law Enforcement Division (G-OLE), for operational law enforcement issues.
- c. Area and district commanders shall participate at the regional level. Area and district commanders shall designate an appropriate office to coordinate area and district participation in the National Marine Sanctuary Program. This office shall establish and maintain contact with Commandant (G-OLE) and the local sanctuary managers.
- d. Area and district commanders shall:
  - (1) For waterways management issues, marine environmental protection issues, and general Coast Guard operations within the marine sanctuaries, cooperate and coordinate with the local sanctuary managers.
  - (2) For the enforcement of sanctuary regulations, and other enforcement operations within marine sanctuaries as appropriate, coordinate with the local sanctuary manager and the regional National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) special agent in charge.
  - (3) Ensure units under their command properly document marine sanctuary enforcement efforts per COMDTINST M3123.71, Abstract of Operations Reports.
- e. The Coast Guard may also assist NOAA in its efforts to educate the boating public with regard to marine

sanctuary regulations by involving the Coast Guard Auxiliary. NOAA's management philosophy focuses on protecting sanctuary resources primarily through public education. By incorporating information provided by NOAA on the sanctuary program, the Auxiliary could contribute significantly to the goal of enhancing public awareness of sanctuary regulations and promoting public stewardship of these unique national resources. District commanders should encourage the cooperation of the Auxiliary with the local sanctuary managers in providing NOAA educational material to the boating public during Auxiliary boating safety courses and courtesy safety examinations, and through other activities as deemed appropriate.

/s/ ROBERT T. NELSON  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Acting Commandant

Encl: (1) Chart of the National Marine Sanctuaries  
(2) List of National Marine Sanctuaries

# NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES



**LIST OF DESIGNATED NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES**

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary Manager: LCDR John Miller, NOAA  
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary  
113 Harbor Way  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109  
(805) 966-7107  
(805) 568-1582 Fax

CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Mr. Edward Ueber  
Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary  
Fort Mason, Building 204  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
(415) 556-3509  
(415) 556-1419 Fax

FAGATELE BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary Coordinator: Ms. Nancy Daschbach  
Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 4318  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
(684) 633-7354  
(684) 633-7355 Fax

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary project manager: Mr. Billy D. Causey  
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary  
9499 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, FL 33050  
(305) 743-2437  
(305) 743-2357 Fax

FLOWER GARDEN BANKS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Dr. Stephen R. Gittings  
Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary  
c/o Texas A&M University  
Sea Grant Program  
1716 Briarcrest Drive, Suite 702  
Bryan, TX 77802  
(409) 847-9296  
(409) 845-7525 Fax

## GRAY'S REEF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Mr. Reed Bohne  
Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 13687  
Savannah, GA 31416  
(912) 598-2496  
(912) 598-2302 Fax

## GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Mr. Edward Ueber  
Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
(415) 556-3509  
(415) 556-1419 Fax

## HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary liaison: Mr. Christopher Evans  
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
National Marine Sanctuary  
c/o Office of State Planning  
P.O. Box 3540  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
(808) 586-0176  
(808) 586-0177 Fax

## KEY LARGO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: CDR Alan R. Bunn, NOAA  
Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 1083  
Key Largo, FL 33037  
(305) 451-1644  
(305) 451-3193 Fax

## LOOE KEY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Mr. George Schmahl  
Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary  
Route 1, Box 782  
Big Pine Key, FL 33043  
(305) 872-4039  
(305) 872-3860 Fax

## MONITOR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Dr. John D. Broadwater  
MONITOR National Marine Sanctuary  
NOAA/Building 1519  
Fort Eustis, VA 23604-5544  
(804) 878-3511/2973  
(804) 878-4619 Fax

## MONTEREY BAY MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: CDR Terry Jackson, NOAA  
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
2560 Garden Road, Suite 101  
Monterey, Ca 93940  
(408) 647-4201  
(408) 647-4225 Fax

## STELLWAGEN BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary manager: Mr. Brad Barr  
Sanctuaries and Reserves Division  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
1301 East-West Highway, 12th Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(301) 713-3125

### **LIST OF PROPOSED SANCTUARY SITES**|b|

## NORFOLK CANYON

Sanctuary program specialist: Ms. Cheryl Graham  
Sanctuaries and Reserves Division  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
1301 East-West Highway, 12th Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(301) 713-3125



## NORTHWEST STRAITS

On-site liaison: Ms. Linda Maxson  
Sanctuaries and Reserves Division  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
7600 Sand Point Way, NE  
Bin C 15700  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 526-4293  
(206) 526-4294 Fax

## OLYMPIC COAST

On-site liaison: Mrs. Linda Maxson  
Sanctuaries and Reserves Division  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
7600 Sand Point Way, NE  
Bin C 15700  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 526-4295  
(206) 526-4294 Fax

## THUNDER BAY

On-site liaison: Ms. Michele Richhart  
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
530 Allegan, 2nd Floor  
Lansing, MI 48933  
(517) 373-7892  
(517) 373-6507 Fax